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PATENT

Case Docket No. SPIRTN.016C1

Date: June 22, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Snyder et al.
Appl. No. : 10/665,174
Filed : September 17, 2003
For : CONSTRUCTION DEVICE
INCLUDING REINFORCED
SUTURE HOLES
Examiner : Unknown
Group Art Unit : 3731

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on

June 22, 2004

(Date)

Vito A. Canuso III, Reg. No. 35,471

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application are:

- (X) An Information Disclosure Statement.
- (X) A PTO Form 1449 listing six (6) references.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.

Vito A. Canuso III
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant : Snyder et al.
App. No. : 10/665,174
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REINFORCED SUTURE HOLES
Examiner : Unknown
Group Art Unit : 3731

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is form PTO-1449 listing six references that are of record in U.S. patent application No. 09/969,949, filed October 2, 2001, which is the parent of this continuation application, and is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Copies of the references are not submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the receipt of a first Office Action on the merits, and presumably no fee is required in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3). If a first Office Action on the merits was mailed before the mailing date of this Statement, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 6/22/04

By: Vito A. Canuso III

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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
SPIRTN.016C1APPLICATION NO.
10/665,174INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT

(USE SEVERAL SHEETS IF NECESSARY)

APPLICANT
Snyder et al.FILING DATE
September 17, 2003GROUP
3731

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (IF APPROPRIATE)
	1	4,881,939	11/21/89	Newman			
	2	5,226,429	07/13/93	Kuzmak			
	3	6,077,214	06/20/00	Mortier et al.			
	4						
	5						
	6						
	7						
	8						
	9						
	10						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	11	EP 1 078 601 A2	02/28/01	Europe				
	12	FR 2 773 702 A1	01/16/98	France				
	13							
	14							
	15							
	16							

EXAMINER
INITIAL

OTHER DOCUMENTS (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)

	17	International Search Report PCT/US02/31522; December 5, 2002
	18	
	19	
	20	
	21	

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060704

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: INITIAL IF CITATION CONSIDERED, WHETHER OR NOT CITATION IS IN CONFORMANCE WITH MPEP 609; DRAW LINE THROUGH CITATION IF NOT IN CONFORMANCE AND NOT CONSIDERED, INCLUDE COPY OF THIS FORM WITH NEXT COMMUNICATION TO APPLICANT.